

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A print data providing apparatus for providing an external device with a print document ~~consisting~~ comprised of a plurality of print data files described in different formats, ~~the~~ said print data providing apparatus comprising:

an archiving unit operable to archive the plurality of the print data files into ~~[[a]]~~ an archived file; and

an output unit operable to output the archived file to the external device,

wherein said archiving unit archives the plurality of the print data files into the archived file after changing a name of one print data file of the plurality of the print data files to a specified name, the one print data file being required by a printing apparatus in order to print the print document.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) A print data providing apparatus for providing an external device with a print document comprised of a plurality of print data files described in different formats, said print data providing apparatus comprising:

an archiving unit operable to archive the plurality of the print data files into an archived file; and

an output unit operable to output the archived file to the external device,

~~The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 1,~~

wherein ~~the~~ said archiving unit archives one print data file of the plurality of the print data files in a specified position in the archived file, ~~said~~ the one print data file being required ~~in~~ the first place by a printing apparatus in order to print the print document.

4. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein ~~the~~ said output unit transmits to the external device information on a format of the archived file and a format of the print data files that are archived into the archived file.

5. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein ~~the~~ said archiving unit archives the plurality of the print data files in a Tar Ball format.

6. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein ~~the~~ said archiving unit archives the plurality of the print data files in a MIME format.

7. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 1,
wherein ~~the~~ said archiving unit archives the plurality of the print data files in a compressed format.

8. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 1,

further comprising:

a receiving unit operable to receive the plurality of the print data files via a transmission line; and

a first determination unit operable to determine whether or not the received plurality of the print data files compose a single print document,

wherein ~~the~~ said archiving unit archives ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files into [[a]] the archived file when it is determined that ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files compose the print document as a result of the determination by said first determination unit.

9. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a receiving unit operable to receive the plurality of the print data files via a transmission line;

a first determination unit operable to determine whether or not the received plurality of the print data files compose a single print document; and

a second determination unit operable to determine whether or not ~~said~~ the received print data files is archive data,

wherein ~~the~~ said archiving unit archives the print data files into [[a]] the archived file when ~~the~~ said second determination unit determines that ~~said~~ the print data files are not archive data and ~~the~~ said first determination unit determines that ~~said~~ the print data files are a plurality of print data files composing a single print document.

10. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the external device is a printing apparatus connected to ~~the~~ said print data providing apparatus via a transmission line, and ~~the~~ said output unit transmits the archived file to the printing apparatus.

11. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the external device is a removable storage medium mounted on ~~the~~ said print data providing apparatus.

12. (Currently Amended) A print data providing apparatus for providing a printing apparatus connected to ~~the~~ said print data providing apparatus via a transmission line with a print document ~~consisting~~ comprised of a plurality of print data files described in different formats, ~~the~~ said print data providing apparatus comprising

a sequential transmission unit operable to sequentially transmit to the printing apparatus ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information indicating that ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files to be transmitted are the print data files composing the print document,

wherein said sequential transmission unit transmits sequentially the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information on a total number of the plurality of the print data files composing the print document and a transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files composing the print document.

13. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein the information is attached to one print data file to be transmitted ~~in the first place~~, of the plurality of the print data files to be transmitted.

14. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein the information contains information on a format of the plurality of the print data files to be transmitted and a method of push transmitting ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files to the printing apparatus.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A print data providing apparatus for providing a printing apparatus connected to said print data providing apparatus via a transmission line with a print document comprised of a plurality of print data files described in different formats, said print data providing apparatus comprising

a sequential transmission unit operable to sequentially transmit to the printing apparatus the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information indicating that the plurality of the print data files to be transmitted are the print data files composing the print document,

~~The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 12,~~

wherein ~~the~~ said sequential transmission unit transmits the plurality of the print data files accompanied by a flag indicating a completion of the transmission, the flag being attached to one

print data file to be transmitted ~~in the last place~~, of ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files composing the print document.

17. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ said sequential transmission unit sequentially transmits ~~further~~ the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information indicating a format of one print data file that is presently transmitted, of ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files.

18. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein ~~the~~ said sequential transmission unit sequentially transmits the plurality of the print data files with a data name presenting a format of each of ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files.

19. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 17, wherein ~~the~~ said sequential transmission unit sequentially transmits the plurality of the print data files accompanied by a header indicating a format of each of ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files.

20. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ said sequential transmission unit firstly transmits one print data file of the plurality of the print data files, ~~said~~ the one print data file being required ~~in the first place~~ by the

printing apparatus in order to print the print document.

21. (Currently Amended) The print data providing apparatus according to Claim 12, further comprising:

a receiving unit operable to receive the plurality of the print data files via the transmission line; and

a determination unit operable to determine whether or not the received plurality of the print data files compose the print document, ~~and~~

wherein ~~the~~ said sequential transmission unit sequentially transmits the plurality of the print data files, to the printing apparatus, accompanied by information indicating that ~~said the~~ plurality of the print data files are the print data files composing the print document when it is determined that ~~said the~~ plurality of the print data files compose the print document as a result of the determination by said determination unit.

22. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus for acquiring a print document from a print data providing apparatus connected to ~~the~~ said printing apparatus via a transmission line, and for printing the acquired print document, ~~the~~ said printing apparatus comprising:

an acquisition unit operable to acquire an archived file from the print data providing apparatus, ~~said the~~ archived file being an archive of a plurality of print data files described in different formats, ~~said the~~ plurality of the print data files composing a print document;

an expansion unit operable to expand the acquired archived file into each of ~~said the~~

plurality of the print data files; and

a print unit operable to print a print document, the print document being a combination of each of the expanded print data files,

wherein the plurality of the print data files are archived into the archived file after a name of one print data file of the plurality of the print data files is changed to a specified name, the one print data file being required by said printing apparatus in order to print the print document.

23. (Currently Amended) The printing apparatus according to Claim 22,

wherein ~~the~~ said print unit further includes an analysis unit operable to analyze the one specified print data file after expanding the archived file into ~~of~~ the expanded print data files, and to combine each of ~~said~~ the expanded print data files so that a print picture presented by each of ~~said~~ the expanded print data files may compose a single print document, and

wherein said print unit is operable to print prints each of ~~said~~ the expanded print data files according to the combination made by ~~the~~ said analysis unit.

24. (Currently Amended) The printing apparatus according to Claim 23,

wherein ~~the~~ said analysis unit analyzes the one print data file of the expanded print data files, the one print data file having ~~[[a]]~~ the specified name, and combines each of ~~said~~ the expanded print data files.

25. (Currently Amended) The printing apparatus according to Claim 23,

wherein ~~the~~ said analysis unit analyzes the one print data file of the expanded print data files, and combines each of ~~said~~ the expanded print data files, ~~said~~ the one print data file being archived in a specified position in the archived file.

26. (Currently Amended) A printing apparatus for acquiring a print document from a print data providing apparatus connected to ~~the~~ said printing apparatus via a transmission line, and for printing the acquired print document,

wherein the print document ~~consists~~ is comprised of a plurality of print data files described in different formats, and

~~the~~ said printing apparatus comprises:

a sequential acquisition unit operable to sequentially acquire, from the print data providing apparatus, the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information indicating that ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files compose the print document; and

a print unit operable to detect, based on the information, that the acquisition of ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files composing the single print document is complete, and print the print document, the print document being a combination of each of the acquired print data files,

wherein said sequential acquisition unit sequentially acquires the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information on a total number of the print data files composing the print document and a transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files composing the print document.

27. (Currently Amended) The printing apparatus according to Claim 26,
~~wherein the sequential acquisition unit sequentially acquires the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information indicating a total number and a transmitting order of said plurality of the print data files composing the print document, and~~
wherein said the print unit detects, based on the information, that the acquisition of the total number of the print data files is complete, and prints the print document.

28. (Currently Amended) The printing apparatus according to Claim 26,
wherein ~~the~~ said sequential acquisition unit acquires the plurality of the print data files composing the print document accompanied by a flag indicating a completion of a transmission of ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files, and
~~the~~ said print unit detects that the acquisition of the print data files is complete based on the flag, and prints the print document.

29. (Currently Amended) A print data generating apparatus for generating print data files so that a printing apparatus may print a print document ~~consisting~~ comprised of a plurality of print data files described in different formats, ~~the~~ said print data generating apparatus comprising

an archiving unit operable to archive the plurality of the print data files into a file after the printing apparatus changes a name of one print data file of ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files to a specified name, the ~~said~~ one print data file being required ~~of in the first place~~ by the printing

apparatus in order to print the print document.

30. (Currently Amended) A print data generating apparatus for generating print data files so that a printing apparatus may print a print document ~~consisting~~ comprised of a plurality of print data files described in different formats, ~~the~~ said print data generating apparatus comprising

an archiving unit operable to archive one print data file of ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files in a specified position in an archived file, ~~said~~ the one print data file being required ~~of~~ in the first place by the printing apparatus in order to print the print document.

31. (Currently Amended) A print system comprising a print data providing apparatus and a printing apparatus mutually connected via a transmission line,

wherein the print data providing apparatus includes:

an archiving unit operable to archive a plurality of print data files described in different formats into ~~[[a]]~~ an archive file, ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files composing a print document; and

a transmission unit operable to transmit the archived file to the printing apparatus,
and

wherein the printing apparatus includes:

an acquisition unit operable to acquire, from the print data providing apparatus, the archived file being an archive of ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of the print data files described in different

formats, ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files composing the print document;

an expansion unit operable to expand the acquired archived file into each of ~~said~~
the plurality of the print data files; and

a print unit operable to print the print document, the print document being a
combination of each of the expanded print data files, and

wherein the archiving unit archives the plurality of the print data files into the archived
file after changing a name of one print data file of the plurality of the print data files to a
specified name, the one print data file being required by the printing apparatus in order to print
the print document.

32. (Currently Amended) A print system comprising a print data providing apparatus
and a printing apparatus mutually connected via a transmission line,

wherein the print data providing apparatus includes:

a sequential transmission unit operable to transmit, to the printing apparatus, ~~each~~
a plurality of print data file files accompanied by information indicating that ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of
the print data files to be transmitted compose a single print document, ~~and~~

wherein the printing apparatus includes:

a sequential acquisition unit operable to sequentially acquire ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of
print data files described in different formats accompanied by the information indicating that ~~said~~
the plurality of the print data files compose a single print document; and

a print unit operable to print the print document, the print document being a

combination of each of the acquired print data files, after all of the plurality of the print data files composing a single print document are acquired, and

wherein the sequential transmission unit transmits sequentially the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information on a total number of the plurality of the print data files composing the single print document and a transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files composing the single print document.

33. (Currently Amended) A print data transmission method for a print system comprising a print data providing apparatus and a printing apparatus mutually connected via a transmission line,

wherein the print data providing apparatus performs ~~includes~~ the steps of:

archiving a plurality of print data files described in different formats into ~~[[a]]~~ an archived file, ~~said the plurality of the print data files composing a print document;~~ and

transmitting the archived file to the printing apparatus, ~~and~~

wherein the printing apparatus ~~includes~~ performs the steps of:

acquiring, from the print data providing apparatus, the archived file being an archive of ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of the print data files described in different formats, ~~said the plurality of the print data files composing a print document;~~

expanding the acquired archived file into each of the print data files; and

printing the print document being a combination of each of the expanded print data files, and

wherein the archiving step comprises archiving the plurality of the print data files into the archived file after changing a name of one print data file of the plurality of the print data files to a specified name, the one print data file being required by the printing apparatus in order to print the print document.

34. (Currently Amended) A print data transmission method for a print system comprising a print data providing apparatus and a printing apparatus mutually connected via a transmission line,

wherein the print data providing apparatus ~~includes~~ performs a sequential transmission step of sequentially transmitting, to the printing apparatus, ~~each~~ a plurality of print data file files accompanied by information indicating that ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of print data files to be transmitted compose a single print document, and

the printing apparatus ~~includes~~ performs the steps of:

acquiring sequentially, from the print data providing apparatus, ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of the print data files described in different formats accompanied by information indicating that ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files compose a single print document;

printing the print document, the print document being a combination of each of the acquired print data files, after all of the plurality of the print data files composing a single document are acquired, and

wherein the sequential transmission step comprises transmitting sequentially the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information on a total number of the plurality of the print

data files composing the single print document and a transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files composing the single print document.

35. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having a program stored thereon for causing a print data providing apparatus to execute a method for providing an external device with a print document ~~consisting~~ comprised of a plurality of print data files described in different formats, the method program comprising ~~the steps of:~~

archiving ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files into ~~[[a]]~~ an archived file; and
outputting the archived file to the external device,

wherein said archiving comprises archiving the plurality of the print data files into the archived file after changing a name of one print data file of the plurality of the print data files to a specified name, the one print data file being required by a printing apparatus in order to print the print document.

36. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having a program stored thereon for causing a data providing apparatus to perform a method for providing an external device with a print document ~~consisting~~ comprised of a plurality of print data files described in different formats, the ~~program~~ method comprising

a sequential transmission step of sequentially transmitting, to the external device, ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information indicating that ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files to be transmitted compose the print document,

wherein said sequential transmission step comprises sequentially transmitting the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information on a total number of the print data files composing the print document and a transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files composing the print document.

37. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having a program stored thereon for causing a printing apparatus to execute a method for acquiring a print document from a print data providing apparatus connected to the printing apparatus via a transmission line, and for printing the acquired document, the ~~program~~ method comprising ~~the steps of:~~

acquiring, from the print data providing apparatus, an archived file being an archive of a plurality of print data files described in different formats, ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files composing a print document;

expanding the acquired archived file into each of ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files;
and

printing the print document being a combination of each of the expanded print data files,
wherein the plurality of the print data files are archived into the archived file after a name of one print data file of the plurality of the print data files is changed to a specified name, the one print data file being required by the printing apparatus in order to print the print document.

38. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having a program stored thereon for causing a printing apparatus to execute a method for acquiring a print document from

a print data providing apparatus connected to the printing apparatus via a transmission line, and for printing the acquired print document, wherein the print document ~~consists of~~ comprises a plurality of print data files described in different formats, the ~~program~~ method comprising the ~~steps of~~:

acquiring sequentially, from the print data providing apparatus, ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files accompanied by information indicating that ~~said~~ the plurality of the print data files compose a single print document; and

detecting, based on the information that the acquisition of the plurality of the print data files composing the single print document is complete, and printing the print document being a combination of each of the acquired print data files,

wherein the plurality of the print data files acquired sequentially from the print data providing apparatus are accompanied by information on a total number of the plurality of the print data files composing the single print document and a transmitting order of the plurality of the print data files composing the single print document.